

**INDIANA ARTS COMMISSION  
QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING**

March 22, 2013, 9:00 a.m.

The Stateroom, Tilson Music Hall, Indiana State University  
Terre Haute, Indiana

Jon Ford, Chair

Minutes

Members present: Kathy Anderson, Karen Ellerbrook, Jon Ford, Susan Hardwick, Pam Hicks, Jeff Kirk, Al Rent, Suzie Rentschler, Sherry Stark, Trevor Yager

Members via teleconference: Gil Cárdenas, Micah Smith, Nancy Stewart

Members absent: Judy Hess, Linda Levell

IAC staff present: Michelle Anderson, April Blevins, Susan Britsch, Kristina Davis, Bobbie Garver, Dennis Hardin, Emily Hellmuth, Lewis Ricci, Rex Van Zant

Guests: Donna Catalano (Regional Arts Partner Consortium), Jon Kay (Traditional Arts Indiana), Larry Haycraft (artisan)

1. **Welcome and Introductions.** IAC Chair Jon Ford called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and introduced Gregory Goode, Executive Director of Government Relations at Indiana State University, who welcomed everyone to the ISU campus on behalf of the University President and Provost. Mr. Ford asked everyone to introduce themselves.

2. **Consent Agenda.** IAC Commissioner Al Rent moved to adopt the consent agenda, consisting of today's agenda and the minutes from the December 7, 2012 meeting of the full commission. IAC Commissioner Sherry Stark seconded the motion. The motion passed.

3. **Chair's Report.**

A. Governor's Office Issues. Mr. Ford reported that the IAC has a new liaison with the Office of the Governor; he is Andrew Kossack. Mr. Ford also reported that the IAC has a new State Budget Analyst, Jon Sperl. Mr. Ford presented a handout (attached) showing the terms of all current Commissioners, and asked everyone to submit nominations for the vacancy being created by the retirement of Judy Hess after two full terms as Commissioner. IAC Executive Director Lewis Ricci pointed out that there is currently no Commissioner from Region 1, Region 4, or Region 12. Mr. Ford thanked IAC Commissioner Trevor Yager for his professional assistance with the production of the IAC Biennial Report, which will be sent to the legislature within a week.

B. Legislative Issues. Mr. Ford reported that the FY 2014 – 2015 state budget is now being reviewed by the Indiana Senate Appropriations Committee, and that three

IAC proposals for “special initiatives” were not included in the budget proposed by the Indiana House Ways and Means Committee; however, these initiatives might find their way into the Senate version of the budget. Mr. Ford reported that a personal meeting is being arranged between IAC representatives and Indiana’s new First Lady, Karen Pence. Mr. Ricci and IAC Commissioner Sherry Stark will attend the luncheon meeting.

C. Philanthropy. Mr. Ford reported that he will convene a study group, composed of Commissioners, to explore the idea of philanthropic contributions to the Arts Commission by Commissioners and former Commissioners. Such contributions might be allowable for support of capacity-building programs or the upcoming Indiana Bicentennial.

D. Governor’s Arts Awards. Mr. Ford reported that the Executive Committee, in its last meeting on March 13, reviewed proposals from four Indiana communities to host the 2013 Governor’s Arts Awards. The Executive Committee voted to recommend that the City of Carmel be named as the host city. IAC Commissioner Trevor Yager moved to approve the City of Carmel as host city for the 2013 Governor’s Arts Awards. IAC Commissioner Kathy Anderson seconded the motion. The motion passed. Mr. Ford presented a handout (attached) showing the GAA timetable for planning and nominating recipients. Mr. Ford reported that the IAC is working with Traditional Arts Indiana to select a limestone artisan or glass artisan to create the individual awards.

E. Allocation Formula. Mr. Ford reported that the final recommendations have been presented for changes in the Regional Arts Partner/Regional Initiative Grant allocation formula, which has been under study by a select committee for about a year. Mr. Ricci presented a handout (attached) which was presented to the Committee on the Future, the Programs, Grants and Services Committee, and the Executive Committee, explaining the proposed changes. Mr. Ford reported that the proposed changes have been presented and accepted by the Regional Arts Partner Consortium. IAC Commissioner Susan Hardwick moved to approve the proposed changes in the Regional Arts Partner/Regional Initiative Grant allocation formula. IAC Commissioner Pam Hicks seconded the motion. The motion passed. Mr. Ford asked for a discussion of whether the changes should be “phased-in” over a two-year period for those grantee organizations that will see a decrease in their grant amounts. The Commission felt that such a phase-in would not be necessary.

F. Financials. Mr. Ford presented a handout (attached) showing the IAC’s FY 2013 budget, current through February 28, 2013. IAC Deputy Director Michelle Anderson offered a brief explanation and answered questions. Mr. Ford reported that the FY 2014 – 2015 state budget is expected to manifest a 3% reduction in the IAC’s allocation from 2012. Mr. Ricci explained that federal “sequestration” budget cuts will not affect the current IAC allocation from the National Endowment for the Arts, but that a 2.7% reduction in federal funding is expected for the next budget. Mr. Ford presented the 2013 Cultural Trust Report to the General Assembly (copy attached) and asked for Commission approval to submit the report to the legislature. Ms. Hicks moved to approve the 2013 Cultural Trust Report to the General Assembly. IAC Commissioner Karen Ellerbrook seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**5. Executive Director Report.** Mr. Ricci began his report by introducing the newest IAC staff member, Emily Hellmuth, who previously served IAC as a Governor’s Intern.

She has been hired as Communications Manager, replacing Laura Frank who resigned last November.

A. Mr. Ricci reported on two upcoming Capacity-Building workshops being sponsored by the Arts Commission: “Embracing Community Change Through The Arts”, a diversity colloquium, will be presented at the University of Notre Dame on April 18 and 19; and “Creating Vibrant Communities Through the Arts” to be held June 6 and 7 at Hanover College. Mr. Ricci presented tentative agendas for both workshops (attached). He also reported on two more workshops that are being planned: one will cover intellectual property for organizations, co-sponsored by the Indiana University Maurer School of Law, and the other will cover individual artist marketing strategies. Dates have not been set for these two workshops.

B. Studies and Research. Mr. Ricci reported that a long-planned research study of the impact of arts education in Indiana schools will be getting under way soon; the study is being implemented by Robert Sabol of the Purdue University faculty. Results of the study are expected to demonstrate the positive impact of arts education and will be helpful in future advocacy efforts. Mr. Ricci reported that he has begun discussions with the Indiana University School of Public and Environmental Affairs to develop an economic impact study. Mr. Ricci also reported that IAC will begin conducting an annual survey of grantees, and a biannual survey of grant panelists, both of which will inform future capacity-building and technical assistance efforts.

C. Program Updates. IAC Community Development Manager Kristina Davis reported on a plan to form a consortium of those communities which have been accepted into the Statewide Cultural Districts program, to provide information on a variety of shared concerns, and to improve the future process. Ms. Davis also reported that she is working with the Governor’s Planning Council for People with Disabilities to send disabled participants to the “Embracing Community Change Through the Arts” colloquium at the University of Notre Dame in April.

IAC Community Development Manager Susan Britsch reported on the recent state Poetry Out Loud competition, which was won by Emma Libersky of Plymouth High school. Ms. Britsch will accompany Ms. Libersky to the national final competition in Washington DC in May. She offered thanks to the Rooker Foundation for their continuing financial support of the Indiana Poetry Out Loud competition.

Mr. Ricci reported that he intends to conduct a study among the Regional Arts Partners to try to get a more concrete idea of the cost of being an IAC Regional Arts Partner. He has enlisted the help of three RAPs to provide data about direct and indirect costs.

Mr. Ricci reported that the next Indiana Artisan Marketplace will be on April 6 & 7 at the Indiana State Fairgrounds. He stated that the organization is struggling financially since it stopped receiving direct public funding.

Mr. Ford declared a break in the meeting; afterward Mr. Ricci introduced Jon Kay, director of Traditional Arts Indiana in Bloomington, who in turn presented Larry Haycraft, a fourth-generation maker of hand-knotted fishing nets. Mr. Haycraft gave a short presentation and demonstrated his craft with two hand-made nets.

D. Other Partnership Updates. Mr. Ricci reported that he recently met with Sandra Clark, former IAC Commissioner from Bloomington who is now on the board of Arts Midwest. Mr. Ricci stated that he will be making a presentation on behalf of the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies at the National Parent and Teacher Organization convention in Cincinnati, Ohio in June 2013. Mr. Ricci presented a handout (attached) listing all of Indiana's Congressional members along with their contact information. He will be part of a contingent of Indiana advocates who will travel to Washington, DC for National Arts Advocacy Day on April 8 & 9. He asked for assistance from those Commissioners present in making contact with the offices of all of the Congressional members, to set up meeting times for the Indiana delegation on April 9. He also reported that Laura Scanlon from the National Endowment for the Arts came to Indianapolis on February 22 – 23 to attend the Indiana Poetry Out Loud competition.

## **5. Committee Reports.**

A. Programs, Grants and Services Committee. PGS Committee chair Pam Hicks presented a handout (attached) recapping the latest meeting of the committee on March 7. At that time the committee reviewed two applications for Statewide Arts Service Organization grants and will present the results at the June meeting of the full Commission. The committee also reviewed and recommended approval of the proposed changes to the Regional Arts Partner/Regional Initiative Grant allocation formula.

B. Committee on the Future. COF chair Jeff Kirk presented the draft minutes (attached) of the latest meeting of March 5. At that time the committee discussed the proposed changes to the Regional Arts Partner/Regional Initiative Grant allocation formula. Also discussed were ways to monitor the current IAC Strategic Plan, and to articulate specific strategies for the remaining three years of the plan. Mr. Kirk also reminded the COF that it needs to re-convene at the close of the all-Commission meeting in order to approve minutes.

6. **Regional Partners Update.** RAP Consortium president Donna Catalano gave a brief recap of activities from Arts Day at the Statehouse, during which the Partners were able to make personal contact with all of Indiana's state legislators and present them with information packets about IAC programs.

7. **Old Business.** Ms. Britsch offered thanks to all Commissioners who volunteered to be facilitators at this spring's grant panels, while reminding them that the dates of the panels are coming up soon on the calendar. Ms. Ellerbrook offered her thanks to all IAC staff for diligent work. Mr. Ricci announced that, in conjunction with the June meeting of the full Commission will come a recognition ceremony for IAC Community Development Manager Bobbie Garver, who will be retiring after 45 years with the Arts Commission.

8. **New Business.** There was no new business.

9. **Closing Comments.** Mr. Ford thanked everyone for their participation.

10. **Adjourn.** Mr. Yager moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Hardwick seconded the motion. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.